

GERMANS WIN TWO-MILE LINE WEST OF MEUSE

French Hold on Le
Mort Homme Is
Imperilled.

TEUTON LOSSES
NEARLY 400,000

Paris Admits Falling
Back in Caurettes
Wood.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, May 30.—More French de-
fences at Verdun gave way before Ger-
man battering to-day. Advancing over
a two-mile line—the widest front yet
covered west of the Meuse—the huge
war machine of the Crown Prince set-
tled down in fresh positions to renew
the grinding process. This was the
hundredth day of the battle.
Paris admitted to-day the abandon-
ing of the Bethincourt-Cumieres road,
which the Germans have been seeking
to break since early in April. The
War Office conceded losses in the
Caurettes Wood, south of Cumieres,
and on the slopes of Le Mort Homme.
Since then the curtain of censor-
ship has been dropped on the opera-
tions at Verdun. The night com-
munique is almost the briefest since
the beginning of the attack. It gives
no details, but confines itself to the
terse statement that the "bombard-
ment has been very violent in the re-
gion of Le Mort Homme and Cumieres."
Expect Fall of Heights.
Observers here believe this step is
preparatory to the announcement of
news which they have been expecting
for some time—the evacuation of Le
Mort Homme and Hill 304. It has al-
ways been a part of the French plan
to sacrifice these positions after the
Germans had bought them sufficiently
dearly. The price exacted during the
last ten days certainly should satisfy
the most grasping.
To-day's assaults were but the repe-
tition of the slaughter that has gone
on at Verdun since February 21. Even
the ground of to-day's battle has been
fought over incessantly for three
months. The lines stand scarcely a
thousand yards from where they stood
then. They have been purchased at a
cost of thousands of lives a foot.

Aim to Flank Le Mort Homme.
The German operation at Cumieres
is designed to do what the attack at
Avescourt has failed to do. It seeks
to flank from the east instead of the
west the French positions at Le Mort
Homme and Hill 304. Even Paris ad-
missions of German gains show that
the plan has nearly succeeded.
As the situation stood at the latest
available information to-day, Le Mort
Homme was a salient projecting into
the German lines. On the west, along
the Forges brook, it has been closely
gripped, while the German advance
from the east incessantly narrowed
the gap still available to the French.
As soon as the Crown Prince can com-
pletely command this opening with his
guns the French must evacuate the hill
and fall back on the Charny ridge itself.
Paris Admits Losses.
"On the left bank of the River
Meuse," the early French statement
said, "the bombardment was contin-
ued yesterday evening with redoubled
violence between Dead Man Hill and
Cumieres. Shortly after this activity
the enemy directed a very strong at-
tack upon all our positions in this sec-
tor. In this fighting a new division,
recently arrived on the scene, took part.
On our left all the assaults of the
enemy upon the slopes to the east of
Dead Man Hill, where our lines are
established, were checked by our fire.
Further to the east, in the vicinity of
the Caurettes Wood, the enemy, after
several fruitless endeavors in which
they suffered heavy losses, compelled
us to retire from some of our advanced
trenches to the south of the road be-
hind the Bethincourt-Cumieres road.
The Germans on our right, in spite of re-
peated efforts, were not successful in
driving us away from the southern
boundaries of the village of Tureau
(Charny) and continued with in-
tensity throughout the night."

German Statement.
The German official statement reads:
The German army is continuing along
the front between La Bassee Canal and
Arras. Lens was again bombarded.
In the neighborhood of Souchez (Ar-
tois district) and southeast of Tureau
(Charny) weak enemy advances
failed.

"There has been increased fighting
activity between Hill 304 and the
Meuse. South of the Corney, where
Cumieres woods we captured French
positions, along the entire extent be-
tween the southern ridge of Dead Man
Hill and Cumieres village. Thirty-five
officers, including several staff officers,
and 1,215 unarmored men were cap-
tured. Two counter attacks against
Cumieres village were repelled.
"East of the Meuse we improved
upon our newly captured line in the
Thiaumont wood. The advance was in
the eastern portion of the wood. Here
at times the fire on both sides reached
the greatest violence."

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BRITAIN MAY BE PUT ON MEAT RATIONS

London, May 30.—There
is now believed to be a pos-
sibility that the people of the
British Isles will be placed on
meat rations. Captain Ernest
Pretymann, Parliamentary
Under Secretary for the
Board of Trade, said in the
House of Commons today
that, although there was no
actual shortage, the existing
high prices arose from a de-
ficiency due to the require-
ments of the forces in the
field. The government, he
added, was reviewing the
situation carefully.

50,000 UNITS OF TOXIN FAIL TETANUS PATIENT

Record Amount Administered in
Day—Abrasion Proves Fatal.
[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Camden, N. J., May 30.—Fifty thou-
sand units of anti-tetanus toxin ad-
ministered within twenty-four hours—
a record amount—failed to save the
life of William Whelan at the Cooper
Hospital here to-day.
Whelan's case was a mystery to the
authorities. It is not known how he
became infected. The patient never
knew what hurt him until he was an-
noyed by an abrasion behind his left
ear. Home remedies were the only
thing he applied at first.
The sore, from a triviality, grew se-
rious. He went to surgeons. Despite
their efforts, pain set in and continued
until his death.

YUAN POISONED; REPORTED VERY ILL

Chinese President's Condition
Said To Be Critical.
San Francisco, May 30.—Yuan Shih-
kai, President of the Chinese Republic,
has been poisoned and is in a critical
condition, according to advices from
Shanghai, received here to-day at the
headquarters of the Chinese Republic
Association.
Recent dispatches from Peking have
stated that the President was seriously
ill, but the cause of his illness was
not given.

COSTS SPEEDER \$100 TO FIND BOOB NO BOOB

Caught at Bridge After Defying
Policeman Samuel Boob.
Harrison, N. J., May 30.—Policeman
Samuel Boob is a boob in name, but in
nothing else. Frank Wigand, a manu-
facturer, of 1578 Clinton Avenue, Ir-
vington, N. J., found this out yester-
day.
Wigand, motoring through one of the
Harrison traffic centres, was "called" by
Boob for driving past a trolley.
If you want to get me, you see my
number, don't you?" said Wigand.
For six miles they raced down the
turnpike. As they neared the Hacken-
sack drawbridge Boob forged ahead,
and had the gate closed. Wigand
stopped and was arrested for reckless
driving, speeding and resisting arrest.
He paid \$100 in fines.

TAFT WILL SUPPORT "ANY REPUBLICAN"

Has Not Forgotten, He Says,
What Party Did for Him.
[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Pittsburgh, May 30.—Asserting
that he had not given the matter of
the Republican nominee at the Chicago
convention much thought, ex-President
William H. Taft, en route to Washing-
ton, Penn., for a Memorial Day address,
said that he would support "any Repub-
lican" who might be nominated.
The ex-President laid emphasis on the
fact that he "was, and is, a Republi-
can."
Asked whom he would nominate the
Republican delegates would nominate at
Chicago, Taft said: "I do not know
wholly out of the question, inasmuch
as I have given the matter
very little thought. I do not know
enough always been, and am, a Rep-
ublican. The Republicans are all my
friends and I will support any Repub-
lican they name. It would be ingrati-
tude for me to do otherwise. They
were very good to me; in fact, I
could not have asked for better treat-
ment. The fight is going to be a hard
one and I am for them. I have not for-
gotten what they did for me."
Mr. Taft was reminded of the fact
that he emphasized the word "Republi-
can;" he laughed heartily in admit-
ting it.

GEORGE W. PERKINS'S DAUGHTER TO WED

Engagement to E. W. Freeman,
of Riverdale, Announced.
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Perkins, of
Riverdale-on-Hudson, have announced
the engagement of their daughter,
Dorothy, to Edward W. Freeman, son
of Mrs. B. W. Freeman, also of River-
dale-on-Hudson. No date has been set
for the wedding.
Mr. Freeman is twenty-four years
old, and was graduated from Yale in
1913. He is with Hallgarten & Co.,
bankers of 5 Nassau Street.
Mr. Perkins said yesterday of Mr.
Freeman: "Next to my own son, I
think he is the finest young man I
ever knew."

SHELLS CRASH IN WHIRLPOOL; OARSMAN LOST

Crowds See 7 Saved
at Finish of Har-
lem River Race.

ROWERS CLAMPED
TO WRECKAGE

Too Weary to Free Them-
selves—Family Near as
Youth Drowns.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Melvin McKenna, at stroke, and his
rowing mates dropped forward from
exhaustion as the Wahnetah Boat
Club's four-oared shell crossed the
Harlem River finish line yesterday af-
ternoon in the annual Memorial Day
regatta of the New York Rowing As-
sociation. It had been a long pull of
a mile and a quarter through a flood tide
of choppy water. They had been beaten
by the University Barge Club of Phila-
delphia, after a nose to nose race for
more than a mile.
Bowed in defeat and fatigue, the
Wahnetah rowers did not notice that
their shell was drifting toward a se-
rious wrecking point. Spectators on
Washington Bridge and the Highbridge
aqueduct, knowing that another boat
had been wrecked in the same spot
earlier in the afternoon, shouted warn-
ings to McKenna.
Shells Split in Whirlpool.
Before he could find out what they
meant the frail craft was caught by the
current, twisted sideways and thrown
under the stern of the United States
Coast Guard tug Manhattan, which was
tied up to a coal dock near 178th
Street.
A few seconds later the shell of the
St. Alphonse's Boat Club, of Boston,
slipped into the whirlpool and was
smashed up against the Wahnetah
shell with such impact that both split.
All eight of the oarsmen, too exhaust-
ed to release their feet from the shoes
nailed to the bottom of the shells,
were struggling in the tangled debris.
Several of them were saved by the
ropes thrown out by the crew of the
Manhattan. Two clung to the side of
the tug until assistance came. By the
time the crowd had climbed down from
the bridges and reached the dock seven
of the eight were regaining consciousness.

"Where's Mel McKenna?" asked
Warren Sabin, No. 3 in the Wahnetah
shell, as soon as he came to.
No one could answer his question.
The stroke was missing.

Parents Seek Oarsman Son.
The crowd separated grudgingly to
permit a white-faced man and woman
and two other women to approach the
men who were working over the oar-
smen. They were Mr. and Mrs. George
McKenna, of 18 Monroe Street, Flush-
ing, Long Island, and the young
stroke's two sisters, Evelyn and Vir-
ginia. No questions were asked. Cap-
tain Gabbott of the Manhattan pointed
to the rowboat which were circling
slowly around the eddying whirlpool
where young McKenna was last seen.
"If he's gone, it's God's will," said
the father, in an effort to cheer the
weeping mother. "God's will be done."
"Where there's a life there is hope,"
said Evelyn McKenna, twenty, and two
years her brother's senior. Several
girls in the crowd prayed with cruci-
fixes in their hands.

For half an hour the search con-
tinued under the direction of A. Moel-
ler, president of the Wahnetah Club.
The grief-stricken family started
for home.

"Melvin was one of the best known
oarsmen on Flushing Bay," his father
said. "He was a true sportsman, and
he followed his favorite sport."
The young man would have been grad-
uated from the Flushing High School
next month.

Gig Racers in Wreck.
In the shell with McKenna were
Raymond Mendenhall at bow, Albert
Stapleton at No. 2 and Sabin at No.
3. The members of the St. Alphonse's
Boat Club, of Boston crew, were Har-
old K. Blackman at bow, Thomas Sul-
livan at No. 2, James Keenan at
No. 3 and John Doherty, stroke. Dr.
Keenan failed to respond to artificial
respiration treatment for twenty min-
utes.

An hour before the senior four-
oared race started, at 5:30 p. m., the
Metropolitan Rowing Club won the
four-oared gig race. As they waited
near the finish mark to see one of the
High School contestants, their shell was
caught in the whirlpool's edge, driven
near a rock, and then shot out into
the river. The shell collapsed after
hitting a submerged tree. Herbert
Martin, Joseph Mack, Charles Freilich
and E. Farnan, the rowers, and Joseph
Cloonan, coxswain, were able to swim
ashore, assisted by ropes thrown from
the Manhattan. Two one-oar sculls
had been overturned by the choppy
waves further up the river and the
Stuyvesant High School's eight-oared
shell sank, while the crew was paddling
to the Lone Star Boat Club, at 158th
Street.

In view of the previous accident in
the whirlpool, veteran rowers fol-
lowing rowing criticised the regatta man-
agement for not roping off the river near
that spot.

WILSON FIRM FOR HIS PEACE ALLIANCE PLAN

Still Desires Union to
"Disentangle Peo-
ple of World."

AMERICA FIRST,
WARNS HYPHENS

Tells Business Men They
Will Be Put to "Acid
Test" on Defence.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, May 30.—Americanism,
preparedness and world peace were
President Wilson's themes at the Mem-
orial Day ceremonies in the Arlington
National Cemetery. Veterans of
both armies in the Civil War applauded
the address, though it was noticed
that the President did not really "get"
the crowd until he reached the pre-
paredness theme near the end of his
speech. Mr. Wilson's announcement
that the "acid test" would be applied
to the business men of the country,
who recently declared for preparedness
in the Chamber of Commerce poll, was
the first statement to draw a spon-
taneous outburst of applause.
"We are going to apply the acid test
to these gentlemen," the President
said, "and the acid test is this: Will
they give the young men in their em-
ployment freedom to volunteer for this
thing? I wish the referendum had in-
cluded that, because that is the essence
of the matter."
President Wilson indicated that he
would sign the army bill within a few
days and that the business men would
have an opportunity then to demon-
strate their eagerness for preparedness
by permitting their employees to at-
tend the summer training camps for
which the bill provides.
The President reiterated the hope
that the United States would join with
the other nations of the world in or-
ganizing a league against war, and he
resented the criticism that this was
opposed to Washington's warning
against entangling alliances.

Wants Union for Peace.
"I shall never myself consent to an
entangling alliance," said Mr. Wilson,
"but I would gladly assent to a dis-
entangling alliance, an alliance that
would put the world upon a basis of
peace, and that would combine in one
the best of the world's resources for
the common right and justice. There is
freedom, not entanglement."
The President's speech followed:
"Whenever I seek to interpret the
spirit of an occasion like this I am
led to reflect upon the uses of mem-
ory. We are here to-day to recall a
period of our history, which in one
sense is so remote that we no longer
seem to keep the vital threads of it
in our consciousness, and yet is so near
that men who played heroic parts in it
are still living, are still about us, are
still here to receive the homage of our
respect and our honor. They belong to
an age which is past, to a period the
vital questions of which no longer vex
the world from those combinations in
which they seek their own separate
and private interests, and unite the
people of the world to preserve the
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Justice Hughes cannot be disturbed
by the matter at this time," was the
message.
This non-committal reply baffled the
Republicans, who are trying to nomi-
nate a President, and who have been
getting angrier every minute since the
arrival yesterday of Mr. Hitchcock, sig-
nified by statements and interviews
that tended to indicate that he was the
recognized spokesman for Hughes.

Friends of Hughes and men opposed
to his nomination are equally angered
at the tactics of Mr. Hitchcock. To
quote a delegate-at-large who is strong-
ly for Hughes, "Hitchcock has spilled
the beans."

Hitchcock's Motive Suspected.
Yet the ex-Postmaster General is
known to be far too clever a politician
not to have considered in advance just
what the effect of his statement would
be. It is possible that it may have
been a wily stratagem, the purpose of
which has not yet been revealed.

If Mr. Hitchcock was entitled to
speak for Justice Hughes, as his confi-
dent statement seemed to assume, then
the justice has been put in an embar-
rassing position. He must disclaim
Hitchcock as having authority, or re-
cognize him and silence will be an
equivalent to this as virtually his
manager. In either event the justice

loses the neutral position he has thus
far enjoyed.
Observers here, however, are not so
sure that Hitchcock is for Hughes to
the finish. As a politician, they hold,
he has such an instinctive fear of the
justice as not to favor another man,
preferably Root, if he can be named.
In this light they regard Hitchcock's
statement as a clever ruse to make the
Hughes candidacy more difficult. In
the confusion thus brought about on
the eve of the convention it may be
easier to spring a compromise candi-
date, which, under the Hughes cloak,
is believed to have been the "old
guard" plan all along.

Roosevelt Men Joyful.
Roosevelt supporters have not been
slow to capitalize this discord in the
Hughes camp. They have none too
tender recollections of the past activi-
ties of Mr. Hitchcock. His discomfi-
ture is a frank source of glee, as well
as a strong advantage politically.
With the Hughes ship thus floundering
in midstream, uncertain of its
course, there continues to be a strong
drift toward the definite channel
Colonel Roosevelt has marked. His
speech in Kansas City to-day, rephras-
ing with his old-time crispness the cur-
rent political truths, emphasizes how
nearly he comes to striking the con-
science as well as the imagination of
the country. No one knows this more
than the politicians daily taking the
national pulse along Candidates' Row.

Colonel Roosevelt's position was
further strengthened to-day by the
appearance of German-American emis-
saries about the committee headquar-
ters. A committee, headed by Bernard
Ridder, of New York, and Horace L.
Brand, of Chicago, called on Chairman
Hilles and formally notified him that
the "German-American voters of the
United States would never stand for
Roosevelt or Root." They demanded
the incorporation of a "neutrality
plank" in the platform.

The injection of this issue into the
convention would act strongly in
Colonel Roosevelt's favor. The leaders are doing
everything in their power to avert it,
but are seeking to satisfy the hyphens
with promises before the convention
meets. There are enough German-
American delegates, however, to make
the situation embarrassing on the
floor, and on this the Roosevelt leaders
are counting.

Business Men for Colonel.
Completion of an organization of
business men in every state in the
Union pledged to use their influence
to induce Republican delegates to vote
for Roosevelt was announced to-day by
Herbert L. Satterlee, acting manager
of the Chicago Roosevelt headquarters.
J. Ogden Armour is head of the Roose-
velt Business Men's Organization in
Illinois. The organization of the en-
tire country by states was begun in
New York eight days ago, and is a
purely volunteer movement. Mr. Satter-
lee explains. It is expected that the
business men will render effective aid
in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, Wis-
consin and other states which have
"favorite son" candidates for Presi-
dent in influencing delegates to sup-
port Roosevelt as a second choice in
the convention.

As the politicians figure that the pre-
cise situation that has been feared by
the real Hughes men has arrived and
that the crisis in the Hughes boom is
near at hand.
Mr. Hitchcock was not perturbed by
the disturbance or by the reports that
went flying through Headquarters Row.
"The whole truth is," Mr. Hitchcock
said, "that I am not a politician."

"TIME FOR FLINTLOCK THEORIES PAST" SAYS COL. ROOSEVELT, URGING DEFENCE

"The time for flintlock theories of statesmanship in
this country is past."

"The people must choose as their executive and legis-
lative leaders at Washington men absolutely national in
spirit; men whose theory of government is as far as the
poles from the pork-barrel theory; men who look forward
and not back; men who face the facts as they actually are."

"It has been said that the West is not interested in
preparedness because it would not suffer from war. I know
that this is a lie."

"I would shrink as from a plague from an American
who would say that he does not care what happens to an-
other American."

"Lofty words are poor companions if they cannot be
translated into deeds."

"The professional pacifist is merely the tool of the
sensational materialist, who has no ideals, whose shrivelled soul
is wholly absorbed in automobiles, and motion pictures, and
money-making, and in the policies of the cash register and
the stock ticker, and the life of fatted ease."

"The navy and the regular army are not enough. Ex-
actly as back of the navy should stand the regular army,
so back of the regular army should stand the nation. I
speak to and on behalf of a nation of freemen. Freemen
fit to be freemen do not have to hire other men to do their
fighting." —From Colonel Roosevelt's speech in Kansas City.

Hitchcock Statement Hurts Hughes Boom

Roosevelt Strength Gains Through Injection of Hyphen
Issue in Convention Fight—Armour Comes
Out for Colonel.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Chicago, May 30.—A Zeppelin bomb
could not have done greater damage to
the Hughes candidacy than has Frank
H. Hitchcock since his arrival here
yesterday. His carefully timed state-
ment declaring the justice ready to ac-
cept the nomination exploded where it
was aimed, but not in the Roosevelt
camp. It back-fired on the justice him-
self. The Colonel, as usual, reaped the
profit.

As a result Justice Hughes was be-
sought this afternoon to repudiate
Hitchcock—if the ex-Postmaster Gen-
eral is really acting for the justice—
or to disavow him as representing the
justice in the pre-convention negotia-
tions in Chicago.

The appeal to Washington was made
over the telephone. The person at the
Chicago end of the wire was not dis-
closed. He might have been Chairman
Charles D. Hilles. Washington's pri-
vate secretary was from Justice Hughes's pri-
vate secretary.

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port Roosevelt as a second choice in
the convention.

KANSAS CITY APPLAUDS UNIVERSAL SERVICE PLAN

National Security Lies in "Second
Navy in World" and Regular
Army of 250,000, He Declares.

ATTACKS WILSON POLICIES
AS MENACE TO NATION

Preparedness, Military and Industrial, Means
Development on Safe Lines, He Asserts—
Great Crowds Cheer Ex-President.

[From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.]
Kansas City, Mo., May 30.—Enthusiasm such as never be-
fore greeted any man in Kansas City marked the visit of Col-
onel Roosevelt to-day. Crowds jammed the streets wherever
he went, and the cheers formed a continuous roar of welcome.

Colonel Roosevelt was cheered when he talked American-
ism, cheered again for his views on preparedness, cheered
for his attacks on Wilson and for his denunciation of the pa-
cifists. Kansas City fairly tore the lid off in welcome, and it
had not yet settled back in place when the Colonel left, just
before midnight.

"I guess that will teach the politicians back East whom
they'd better nominate," was the city's comment on the ovation.
That was the spirit of the day—the city was out to show
where it stood, and it did.

HURLS OPEN KNIFE AT COLONEL'S CAR

Unidentified Man's Act Re-
garded as Joke by Roose-
velt's Secretary.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Kansas City, Mo., May 30.—There
were several untoward incidents dur-
ing Colonel Roosevelt's visit here to-
day. A pocket knife was thrown at
his motor car during the Memorial
Day parade. It struck the arm of John
W. McGrath, the Colonel's secretary,
and fell to the running board of the
car.

McGrath to-night said there was no
force behind the knife, and he believed
some one had tossed it toward the car
as a joke. Colonel Roosevelt was told
of the incident to-night, and afterward
his secretary issued this statement:
"Colonel Roosevelt regards the mat-
ter as an entirely trivial incident, and
feels that no weight should be at-
tached to it."

The secretary was riding in the front
seat of the motor car. Suddenly a
knife with one blade measuring about
three inches struck his arm a glancing
blow. The knife slipped to the ground,
where Ernest Shell, a member of the
American Legion, escorted the former
to a policeman. The patrolman, who-
ever he was, had not reported the in-
cident to-night and the knife had not
been recovered.

Another incident was the arrest in
the lobby of the Hotel Muehlbach of a
man who said his name was Edward
McDaniel and his home was at Tulsa,
Okla. He declared he had business
with Colonel Roosevelt and tried to
force his way past the police. The
police still were holding the man to-
night, but no charges had been pressed
against him.

Attacks Wilson Policies.
The Colonel twice to-day attacked the
Wilson policies, especially his peace
plans, as outlined in the last few days.
Both attacks were cheered to the echo.
In his main speech he said:
"It is worse than idle, it is mischiev-
ous, to indulge in visionary plans about
world action in the future until, in the
present, we act as we should in two
vital matters: in the first place, by
abandoning the pernicious habit of
making reckless promises which can-
not, or ought not, or will not be kept,
and in the second place, the most im-
portant of all by preparing our own
strength so that we can protect our
own rights."

In his address before the Commer-
cial Club he enlarged on this.
"I ask you to judge any man who
seeks to give advice or offers leader-
ship by two things, and two things
only," he said. "First, by the way in
which he makes his clear-cut commit-
ments on concrete cases in the present
fit with his oratory on general prin-
ciples of morality. I am always distrust-
ful of church members whose highest
moral sentiments are aroused by the
Pharisees, but no one since. Second, I
ask you to judge the would-be leader
by this test: That he shall translate
his words into deeds so far as he is in
a position to do so. His loftiest words
are pretty poor stuff if they cannot be
translated into actions."

BILLY SUNDAY HITS ROOSEVELT TRAIL

Plain People Will Elect You, He
Promises T. R.

[From a